REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicant thanks the Examiner for the courtesy shown to Applicant's representative, Josh C. Snider, in the telephone interview conducted on August 19, 2004, for this case. Independent claims 1, 6, and 11 were discussed, and with reference to the Shimizu reference (U.S. 5,383,068). Agreement on the allowability of the claims in their present form was not reached. The Examiner, however, did suggest that the demodulation result recited in the independent claims be described more clearly to distinguish it from a general value that must somehow result from the demodulator 8, shown in Fig. 7 of Shimizu. Accordingly, in the interests of expediting prosecution, Applicant has amended the independent claims to more clearly define the demodulation result of the present invention, as suggested by the Examiner.

As a second preliminary matter, claims 1, 6, and 11 stand objected to for informalities. Specifically, the Examiner asserts that the recited phrase "dynamically-obtained" has no antecedent basis in the Specification to the present Application. Applicant respectfully traverses this objection.

Applicant submits that the "inherently known" description of the term "dynamically-obtained," provided by the Examiner on page 2 of the outstanding Office Action (Paper No. 12), is overly narrow, and does not comply with the ordinary meaning of this claim term. Applicant submits that the term "dynamically-obtained" should be interpreted according to its ordinary meaning, namely, that the correction value at issue is

obtained while the recited head is *in motion*. The plain meaning of the word "dynamic" simply means "related to motion."

The phrase to which the Examiner objects also has ample support in the Specification to the present Application. Page 7, lines 11-12 of the Specification specifically describe how the correction value is dependent on the moving speed of the head. The paragraph beginning on line 14 of the same page further describes these same features in greater detail. Pages 8, 9, 14, 15, and 17 all even further describe in even greater detail how the correction value may be obtained according to the motion of the head while it is moving. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the objection against this claim term is inappropriate, because there is more than sufficient antecedent support in the Specification. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are therefore respectfully requested.

Claims 1-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shimizu. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection because the cited reference fails to teach (or suggest) that the particular demodulation result of the present invention is corrected with the dynamically-obtained correction value, as recited in independent claims 1, 6, and 11, as amended.

As previously argued (page 12 of Amendment B, filed March 3, 2004), and as discussed in the telephone interview described above, Shimizu does not teach or suggest a dynamically-obtained correction value for a head positioning control method. More particularly, Shimizu does not teach or suggest how such a dynamically-obtained correction value corrects the particular demodulation result that is also recited in the present invention.

The Examiner asserts, on page 3 of the outstanding Office Action, that col. 17, line 46 to col. 18, line 6 of the Shimizu reference teaches such a correction value. This portion of text from Shimizu, however, makes no reference to any such correction value. (The Examiner asserted though, in the August 19, 2004 Telephone Interview, that he considers the claim language of the independent claims of the present invention to be broad enough to encompass any type of calculation and/or demodulation values that may be somehow affected by the moving speed of the head of Shimizu's device).

Nevertheless, in the interests of expediting prosecution, Applicant has amended the independent claims of the present invention to more clearly distinguish the demodulation result of the present invention that is corrected by the dynamically-obtained correction value. As now recited in independent claims 1, 6, and 11, the corrected demodulation result includes PosN and PosQ obtained by a four phase offset signal of the position signal read by the head. Even though these amendments to the claims should not have been necessary, the Examiner should recognize that such amendments, by themselves, should clearly distinguish all of the claims of the present invention over the very general description of demodulation provided by Shimizu. Accordingly, for at least these reasons, the Section 102 rejection on independent claims 1, 6, and 11 (as well as their respective dependent claims) based on Shimizu is respectfully traversed.

For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that this Application, including claims 1-15, is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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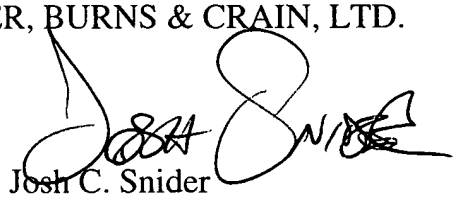
By 

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October 28, 2004

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